

Claims

14. (original) A method of signal processing to determine a message in a multiplexed digital signal, the multiplexed digital signal including a voice channel assignment subchannel for voice channel assignment signals, and a short messaging subchannel for short messaging signals, the method comprising the following steps:
- (A) receiving the multiplexed digital signal;
 - (B) demultiplexing the multiplexed digital signal to generate a short messaging signal and a voice channel assignment signal;
 - (C) screening the voice channel assignment signal from further processing; and
 - (D) determining the message from the short messaging signal.
15. (original) The method of claim 14, wherein:
the multiplexed digital signal is presented in a TDMA format.
16. (original) The method of claim 14, wherein:
the voice channel assignment subchannel and the short messaging subchannel are time-division multiplexed in the digital signal.
17. (original) The method of claim 14, wherein:
the multiplexed signal includes a series of one or more frames.
18. (previously presented) A method of receiving a message on a digital control channel for use in a cellular messaging network, comprising the steps of:
- (A) receiving voice channel assignment signals related to the assignment of voice channels and short messaging signals based on the message from the digital control channel;
 - (B) distinguishing between the voice channel assignment signals and the short messaging signals; and
 - (C) discarding the voice channel assignment signals.

19. (previously presented) The method of claim 18, wherein:
the voice channel assignment signals and the short messaging signals are time-division multiplexed in the digital control channel.
20. (previously presented) The method of claim 18, wherein step (A) comprises the step of:
demultiplexing the digital control channel.
21. (previously presented) The method of claim 18, further comprising the step of:
paging a receiver in the cellular messaging network using the short messaging signals.